

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6458

INFO FAA BRUSSELS

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UNCLAS PARIS 33942

ROME FOR RCAA DWOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, FR

SUBJ: CIVAIR: AIRBUS SALES TO AIR INTER AND AIR FRANCE

1. AIR INTER HAS ANNOUNCED IT IS PURCHASING THREE A-300 B-2 AIRBUS, THE FIRST TWO FOR DELIVERY LATE IN 1976 AND THE THIRD IN EARLY 1978. AIRCRAFT WILL BE CONFIGURED FOR 280 PASSENGERS AND WILL BE PLACED INTO SERVICE ON HIGH DENSITY ROUTES, NOTABLY PARIS-MARSEILLES AND PARIS-LYON. COMMENT: THESE ARE THE FIRST AIRBUS ORDERED BY AIR INTER, WHICH HAS ALSO JUST TAKEN DELIVERY OF ITS TENTH AND LAST MERCURE 100. AIRBUS PURCHASE FURTHER DIMS BOEING'S CHANCES, WHICH WERE THE SLIMMEST AT BEST ANYWAY, OF SELLING TO AIR INTER.

2. AIR FRANCE HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ON DEC. 29 IT PLACED ORDER FOR TWO A-300 B-4 AIRBUS, WHICH WILL BRING CARRIER'S AIRBUS FLEET UP TO NINE AIRCRAFT. THE FIRST WILL BE DELIVERED IN MARCH 1976 AND THE SECOND IN MARCH 1977. THE B-4 MEDIUM/ LONG RANGE VERSION WILL LEND ITSELF TO USE ON SUCH ROUTES AS PARIS-DAKAR AND PARIS-DJIBOUTI IN ADDITION TO CARRIER'S EUROPEAN ROUTE NETWORK. THE TWO AIRCRAFT WILL BE CONFIGURED FOR 270 PASSENGERS IN A SINGLE CLASS.

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